

March 2002

Greetings Fellow Hoosier,

Please find the Children's Trust Fund Annual Report for the fiscal year 2001 enclosed. Throughout this report you will see the difference The Children's Trust Fund and Kids First license plates are making in the lives of children across the state of Indiana as we continue to assist many programs that prevent child abuse and neglect.

We at the Children's Trust Fund are excited about the growth and development that have recently come about. With new administrative support, the Trust Fund has been able to start up a new web page. This will allow the public to acquire information about the Children's Trust Fund and to give feedback. The website has already been updated many times and includes information such as a brief history of the Trust Fund, a list of current Board Members, a list of currently funded agencies, and other items of interest, as needed. The web page also allows agencies to download forms that are needed to fulfill their contract agreement, thus cutting down on the cost of reproducing and mailing such forms. Please feel free to visit our web page at www.in.gov/fssa/children/grant.html.

Other changes include the addition of the marketing team of Lee/Willis Communications. They are working diligently to increase knowledge of the Children's Trust Fund. They have partnered with Panther Racing to promote the Kids First plates at the Indy 500. They have secured a deal with PIP printing to allow the Children's Trust Fund to be the focus of the 2003 charity calendar. They have also designed and print T-shirts with the CTF logo on the back to be used as fund raisers and other promotions.

All of these advances were possible due, in part, to support from our legislators who allowed for the changes. We are very thankful and will continue to make strides toward our goal of reducing child abuse and neglect.

Thank You,

Maria Del Rio-Hoover,
Chairperson, Indiana Children's Trust Fund

**INDIANA
CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND
ANNUAL REPORT
2001**



INTRODUCTION

The Indiana General Assembly established the Indiana Children's Trust Fund in 1994. Legislation called for the design and issuance of a Children's Trust Fund license plate. "KIDS FIRST" license plates became available in January 1995. Proceeds from the sale of such plates are then granted to community programs throughout the state of Indiana, which address the prevention of child abuse and neglect. The Indiana Children's Trust Fund is maintained by a 10-person, volunteer Board. (See Attachment A for a roster of Board Members). The Board must make a decision as to which programs will be funded each year. The State of Indiana's Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Family and Children, contracts with grant awardees based on the decision of the Board.

MISSION

Children are our most important assets; therefore, the mission of the Indiana Children's Trust Fund is to promote the health of children and reduce infant mortality, by funding programs, which prevent child abuse and neglect.

GOALS

The Board has adopted the following goals as a means of fulfilling the overall mission:

1. Reduce the number of deaths due to abuse and neglect;
2. Reduce the total number of substantiated cases of abuse and neglect;
3. Reduce the infant mortality rate.



Lending a helping hand

Many of us already have a Children's Trust Fund "Kids First" license plate on our vehicle. Certainly most of us have seen the colorful hand-printed

plates on Hoosier roadways. These special plates benefit children all around the state of Indiana.

The Children's Trust Fund sends contributions from "Kids First" plates sales directly to local community programs that prevent the tragedy of child abuse and neglect. For the year 2001, the Children's Trust Fund assisted 67 agencies throughout the state with over \$2.4 million.

Putting kids first

Research clearly identifies that child abuse and neglect have harmful long-term effects. When abuse occurs-especially from birth to age four-a child's mental and physical development can be dramatically delayed. The long-term costs of these tragedies pale in comparison to the pain and suffering our children have to endure due to abuse and neglect.

Children's Trust Fund grant recipients work to provide practical solutions that teach good parenting skills, including the importance of nutrition, how to be an active parent and how to discipline without ever even spanking the child. Other programs provide children with encouragement that helps them grow up healthy so as to help break the intergenerational chain of abuse and neglect. Simple steps like talking, reading and singing to your baby help build a strong foundation for learning throughout your child's lifetime.

Making a difference

From big cities to small towns, The Children's Trust Fund puts Indiana children first by funding agencies that prevent child abuse and neglect. The following pages highlight several programs that have benefited from Trust Fund grants.

Giving parents and kids an Even Start

This unique program allows mothers to earn their General Equivalency Diploma (GED) or learn other skills while their children attend on-site daycare. In 1998, Indianapolis Public Schools and the Family Literacy Program provided parental education and training for 39 mothers in two locations.

The day begins with the mothers and the children having a light breakfast together and then taking part in hands-on learning activities. Afterwards, moms study for their GED, learn computer or other skills, or attend on-site seminars. At least two days a week, parenting counselors visit the classroom to speak about important topics.

Stacey Beeman, a past participant of Even Start, dropped out of high school at 16. Now an adult, she has four children. In the past, Stacey had reported that what convinced her to attend Even Start was that her children didn't feel school was important as they knew she had dropped out. Therefore, she went back and got her GED.

While in that program, she learned to be an active parent, how to stretch food dollars while serving nutritious meals and how to resolve conflicts without hitting. Other mothers have achieved this as well. Most young mother's can attend Even Start even after receiving their GED to further their training. It is important to note that Even Start can help a young mother to become a successful role model with skills that will help her children get the even start that she may not have had as a child herself.



School to Home Connection: Putting Kids First

Without encouragement and structure, many children fall behind in school and life. That's why in 1995, the Brownstown Central Community School Corporation established a program that teaches violence prevention and encourages kids to realize (and accept) their own self-worth.

High school students are chosen as Natural Helpers to mentor and spend time with teacher identified elementary students (grades 1-5). Participants are also paired with community Pen Pals, usually senior citizens, with whom they exchange letters, photos and cards. The program has been around long enough that the original group of students has left the program and are now Pre-Natural Helpers or Natural Helpers who read to first graders.

Kid-Ability is another facet of the School to Home Connection. Developed by Girls Inc., in Omaha, Nebraska, it teaches kids how to protect themselves from abuse. Topics include standing tall, avoiding risky situations, and good touch/bad touch. Brownstown was the first in the area to put this program into action and has several trained facilitators who share their knowledge with third grade classes around Jackson County each school year.

Community members pitch in by donating time and effort, while local newspapers cover these educational programs on a regular basis. Being a Natural Helper has remained somewhat of a prestigious job within the community.



Mentor moms teach the art of mothering

Mentor Mothers pairs a teenage mother with a volunteer Mentor Mother who teaches parenting and independent living skills. The Children's Trust Fund assists several Mentor Mother groups around the state, including those in Huntington county and Indianapolis.

Facilitators at Youth Services Bureau of Huntington County say the program teaches younger mothers how to be a better parent. One of the biggest benefits noted is when the teen moms go over to the Mentor Mother's House for dinner. According to staff, it gives them a chance to learn about social skills in a real-life setting. It was also stated that Positive reinforcement and an additional parental figure could make a big impact on these young girls.

The teen mothers also get together as a group at least once a month. They learn about the importance of reading, nutrition, physical care, health care and stress management. These young moms range in age from 14 to 19 years old and usually stay with their Mentor Mother for one-and-a-half to two years. Several teen dads attend meetings along with the teen moms.

Big Sisters of Central Indiana also provides Mentor Mothers. The staff at Big Sisters has reported that the challenges and opportunities are similar to those in Huntington. Big Sisters teach young moms practical skills they can apply to their everyday lives, how to mother and how to avoid bad situations that can hurt a child.

Teen moms receive training and support on a daily, weekly and monthly basis. The program stresses the importance of the interaction between parent and child. With the role models provided by Mentor Mothers, the young girls get the opportunity to watch, learn and grow.



Parent Education & Support

1. BBBS of Wabash Valley	15,390.00
2. CAP of Kosciusko County	29,806.00
3. El Buen Vecino	58,000.00
4. Evansville Vanderburgh School Corp.	32,049.00
5. Exchange Club	38,957.00
6. FSA of Monroe County	47,602.00
7. Grant County YWCA	23,795.00
8. Indianapolis Public School Corp.	37,719.00
9. Noah's Ark	27,075.00
10. St. Elizabeth's	28,569.00
11. YSB of Huntington County	<u>12,137.00</u>
Total	350,379.00

Home and/or Hospital Visitation

1. Area Five Agency on Aging (Healthy Families)	21,600.00
2. Big Sister's of Central Indiana	9,025.00
3. Child Abuse Prevention Services (Healthy Families)	641,125.00
4. Child-Adult Resources (Healthy Families)	51,300.00
5. Families United (Healthy Families)	26,638.00
6. Family Services & Prevention Program (Healthy Families)	45,871.00
7. Family Services, Inc (Healthy Families)	49,347.00
8. FSA of Bartholomew County (Healthy Families)	9,176.00
9. FSA of Central Indiana (Healthy Families)	35,653.00
10. FSA of Howard County (Healthy Families)	41,120.00
11. Furthering Youth	26,226.00
12. Hamilton Center (Healthy Families)	23,940.00
13. Healthnet, Inc. (Healthy Families)	25,840.00
14. Healthy Families of Hamilton County (Healthy Families)	56,027.00
15. Helping Our People Excel, Inc	62,415.00
16. Indiana Health Centers	53,352.00
17. La Casa De Amistad	35,055.00
18. LaPorte Regional Health System (Healthy Families)	55,326.00
19. Lincoln Hills (Healthy Families)	21,161.00
20. Marshall-Starke Development Center (Healthy Families)	26,408.00
21. Mental Health Assoc. of Lake County (Healthy Families)	30,780.00
22. N. Adams School Corp. (Healthy Families)	50,214.00
23. New Castle Area Vocational School Corp. (Family Connections)	42,749.00
24. North West Indiana Health Department Cooperative	50,814.00
25. Open Door Community Services (Healthy Families)	55,575.00
26. Orange County Child Care Cooperative (Healthy Families)	20,007.00
27. Putnam County Family Support Services (Healthy Families)	31,258.00
28. Rauch, Inc (Healthy Families)	40,843.00
29. Ripley County Family Services (Healthy Families)	17,117.00
30. Step Ahead of Wabash Valley	24,675.00
31. Stone Belt (Healthy Families)	41,667.00
32. Wabash Valley Human Services (Healthy Families)	32,951.00
33. Young Mother's Educational Development	14,639.00
34. Youth Service Bureau (Healthy Families)	30,780.00
35. YSB of St. Joseph County, Inc	<u>60,431.00</u>
Total	1,358,723.00

Professional Training

Public Awareness/Education

1. Brownstown Community School Corp.	38,724.00
2. Center for Nonviolence	25,336.00
3. Center for Women and Families	22,728.00
4. Clark County Youth Shelter	23,290.00
5. Community Hospital of Indianapolis	30,000.00
6. Community Mental Health	14,500.00
7. Education for Conflict Resolution	75,411.00
8. Gary Neighborhood Services	28,880.00
9. Hoosier Boys Town	14,477.00
10. Prevent Child Abuse	85,800.00
11. SCAN	20,756.00
12. White/Carroll YMCA	<u>17,170.00</u>
Total	396,773.00

Life Skills for Children & Youth

1. Alternatives, Inc	34,624.00
2. The Bridgework Theatre, Inc	32,490.00
3. Floyd County Circuit Court	33,093.00
4. Girl's Inc of Indianapolis	9,712.00
5. Peace Learning Center	<u>61,816.00</u>
Total	171,735.00

Family Resources Center

1. Marion Community School Corp.	10,000.00
2. Open Door Health Center	27,965.00
3. Youth Resources of South Western Indiana	30,780.00
4. YWCA of Greater Lafayette	<u>6,335.00</u>
Total	75,080.00

Local Council/Network Support

Overall Total \$ 2,352,690.00

FINANCIALS

Fiscal Year 2001

Expenses

Personal Service	200.00
National Dues	0.00
Services by Contract	91,369.09
Materials and Supplies	612.00
Program Services	2,155,659.95
In-State Travel	126.00
Out of State Travel	<u>0.00</u>
	\$2,247,967.04

Income

"Kids First" Plate Sales	1,760,400.00
Fee Collections (Marriage & Divorce Filing Fees)	298,354.80
Heirloom Birth Certificate Sales	276.00
Cash Donations	0.00
Interest	<u>368,065.86</u>
	\$2,427,096.66

Fiscal Year 2001

<u>Program Funding</u>	<u>#Programs</u>	<u>\$ Award</u>
Parent Education & Support	11	\$ 350,379.00
Home &/or Hospital Visitation	35	\$1,284,105.00
Professional Training	0	\$0.00
Public Awareness/Education	12	\$ 396,773.00
Life Skills for Children & Youth	5	\$ 171,735.00
Family Resources Center	4	\$ 75,080.00
Local Council/Network	0	\$ 0.00
Total	67	\$2,278,072.00

Total grants and dollars awarded by year

<u>Year</u>	<u># Programs</u>	<u>\$ Award</u>
1997	54	\$1,968,000
1998	67	\$2,432,857
1999	74	\$2,938,895
2000	66	\$2,616,895

BILL HISTORY REPORT

HB1249

Indiana Children's Trust Fund

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill: (1) Changes the role of the Commissioner of the State Department of Health (or the commissioner's designee) on the board of the Indiana Children's Trust Fund from a nonvoting advisor to a voting member; (2) Requires that an individual designated to serve on the Board by the Commissioner of the State Department of Health must have knowledge of or experience in issues relating to the prevention of child abuse and neglect and the reduction of infant mortality; (3) Gives the Board the authority to hire its own staff; (4) Makes a vote by the majority of the Board members present at a meeting in which a quorum exists necessary in order for the Board to take action; and (5) Allows money from the Indiana Children's Trust Fund, not to exceed \$45,000, to be used to employ staff for the Board.

Effective Date: July 1, 2001

SECTION 1. IC 12-17-16-5 IS AMDENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

Sec. 5. (a) The Indiana Children's Trust Fund Board is established.

(b) The purpose of the Board is to determine whether proposed projects under this chapter should be approved and to perform other duties given to the Board by this chapter. The Board shall approve projects and recommend to the division that the projects receive funds under sections 12 and 13.5 of this chapter.

(c) The Board shall, before January 1 of each year, prepare a budget for expenditures from the fund for the following state fiscal year. The budget must contain priorities for expenditures from the fund to accomplish the projects that

have been approved under this chapter. The budget shall be submitted to the division and the budget committee.

(d) The Board may employ staff necessary to carry out the duties of the Board.



SECTION 2. IC 12-17-16-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

Sec. 6. The Board consists of the following ten (10) members:

- (1) Two (2) individuals, who are not members of the general assembly, appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate with advice from the minority leader of the senate.
- (2) Two (2) individuals, who are not members of the general assembly, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives with advice from the minority leader of the House of Representatives.
- (3) The director of the division or the director's designee.
- (4) Four (4) individuals appointed by the governor as follows:
 - (A) One (1) individual who represents the general public.
 - (B) Two (2) individuals who represent child advocacy organizations.
 - (C) One (1) individual who represents the medical community.
- (5) The commissioner of the State Department of Health or the commissioner's designee. An individual designated by the commissioner under this subdivision must have knowledge of or experience in issues relating to:
 - (A) The prevention of child abuse and neglect; and**
 - (B) The reduction of infant mortality.**

SECTION 3. IC 12-17-16-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

Sec. 8. (a) The Board shall meet at least quarterly and at the call of the chair.

(b) Six (6) Voting members of the Board constitute a quorum. The Board may take action only in the presence of a quorum.

(c) The affirmative vote **a majority** of the members of the Board is necessary for the Board to take any action.

SECTION 4. IC 12-17-16-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

Sect. 13. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), money in the fund may be used for projects that propose to accomplish the following:

- (1) The support, development, and operation in local communities of programs that prevent child abuse and neglect.
 - (2) The development of innovative local programs of education and training concerning child abuse and neglect.
 - (3) The promotion of public awareness of child abuse and neglect.
 - (4) Statewide efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect.
- (b) Money in the infant mortality account established within the fund under section 13.5 of this chapter may be used only for projects that:
- (1) Support, develop, and operate programs that reduce infant mortality in local communities.
 - (2) Develop innovative local programs of education and training concerning infant mortality;
 - (3) Promote public awareness of infant mortality; or
 - (4) Promote statewide efforts to reduce infant mortality.
- (c) Money in the fund may not be granted to a state or local unit of government
- (d) The cost of any salary and benefits paid to staff employed under this chapter:
- (1) shall be paid from money in the fund; and
 - (2) May not exceed forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000) during any fiscal year.

Hoosiers helping Hoosiers

The support of generous Hoosiers from around the state makes these success stories possible. Thanks to the sale of Kids First license plates, we have been able to assist hundreds of Indiana agencies and thousands of Indiana children. We are currently exploring several avenues of marketing and fundraising methods so we will be able to help more organizations prevent the tragedy of abuse and neglect.

What else can I do to help?

If you would like to make a direct, tax-deductible donation, please make checks payable to Children's Trust Fund (\$25, \$50, \$200, \$500, \$1,000 or more) and send it to: Indiana Children's Trust Fund, PO Box 6053, Indianapolis, IN 46206-6053. The Children's Trust Fund will make every effort to see that your money helps to fund programs in or around your region.

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